

# FALL 2015 trends

## Participation in wellness benefits surges

It's apparent many State Health Plan members know a bargain when they see one.



Thousands have taken advantage of the preventive screening, Generic Copay Waiver program and the shingles vaccine, all part of the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority's *Free in '15* campaign. These benefits are provided at no cost to qualifying members in 2015. Here's a look at how participation has grown.

### Preventive screenings

From January 1 to July 31 of this year, 27,930 State Health Plan members participated in a preventive screening. This is a 65.2 percent increase from the same time in 2014. The number of members screened in 2015 has already exceeded last year's total of 23,845.

### Generic Copay Waiver program

A total of 8,254 members were enrolled in the Generic Copay Waiver program on July 31, 2015, an increase of 131 percent from the same time in 2014. Participation in the program has steadily grown during the first seven

Continued on Page 4

## About these benefits

The preventive screening includes blood work, a health risk appraisal, height and weight measurements, blood pressure check and lipid panels. The benefit is available for employees, retirees, COBRA subscribers and their covered spouses if their primary coverage is the Standard Plan or Savings Plan. Screenings are offered at worksites, at regional locations and at participating providers, which include all Doctors Care locations. In 2014, members had to pay a \$15 copay for this benefit.



Members who qualify for the Generic Copay Waiver program can get 12 months of generic drugs that treat high blood pressure, high cholesterol, congestive heart failure and diabetes at a \$0 copay. The waiver can be renewed each year.



The shingles vaccine, Zostavax, and the fee for giving the shot, are available to State Health Plan members age 60 and older at a \$0 copay. In 2014, Zostavax required a \$38 copayment for Standard Plan members.



# State Health Plan membership snapshot

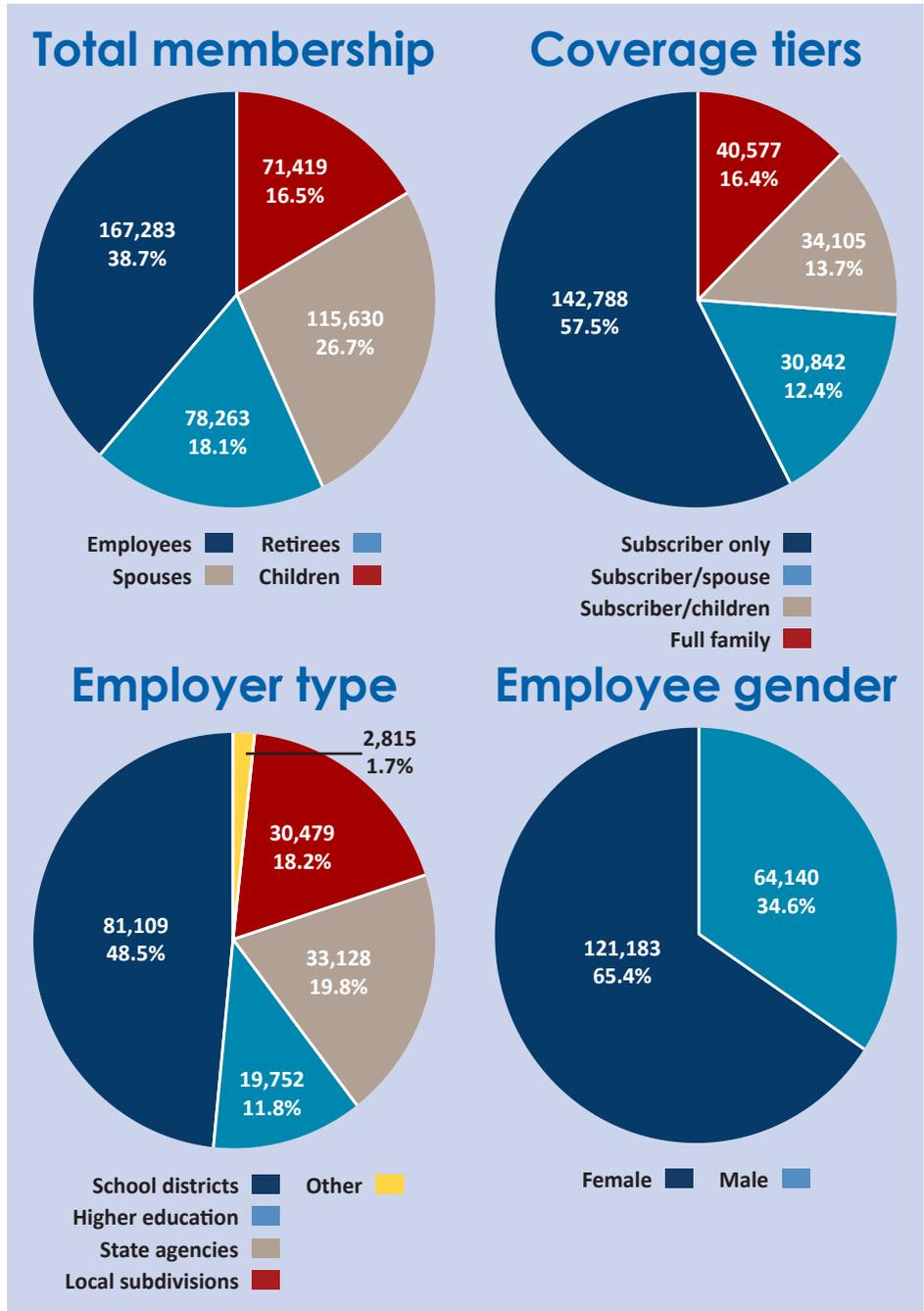
Enrollment in the plan has grown an average of 2.3 percent annually since 2010

Enrollment in the State Health Plan continued its upward trend in 2014, increasing 1.6 percent to 435,358 members from 428,644 members in 2013. The number of employees enrolled in the plan increased 1.7 percent from 164,530 in 2013 to 167,283 in 2014. The number of retirees enrolled grew 2.2 percent from 76,555 in 2013 to 78,263 in 2014. The number of children enrolled in the State Health Plan rose from 70,961 in 2013 to 71,419 in 2014, an increase of 0.7 percent. The number of spouses grew 1.2 percent, from 114,226 in 2013 to 115,630 in 2014.

Since 2010, enrollment in the State Health Plan has grown an average of 2.3 percent annually. The highest percentage growth in the past five years was in 2011, when enrollment grew 3.5 percent from 2010. Some of the growth can be attributed to migration away from health maintenance organizations.

The majority of subscribers, 142,788 or 57.5 percent, are enrolled in subscriber-only coverage. Subscriber/spouse coverage was second in enrollment with 40,577 (16.3 percent). Subscriber/child coverage was third with 34,102 (13.7 percent) and 30,842 members (12.4 percent) had full family coverage.

Of the 167,283 total active employees enrolled in the plan



last year, 81,109 worked for school districts (48.5 percent), 19,752 worked for higher education (11.8 percent), 33,128 worked for state agencies (19.8 percent) and 30,479 worked for local subdivisions (18.2

percent). Another 2,815 worked for other employers (1.7 percent).

The average age of active employees was 44 years old in 2014. The majority of active employees, 65.4 percent, were female.

## Plan provides nearly 80,000 Well Child office visits in 2014

### Children account for 10.7 percent of year's total claims payments

Regular checkups and proper immunizations are two of the most effective ways of promoting healthy development in children. Through regular doctor visits, developmental and medical concerns can be detected and treated in the earliest stages. Proper childhood immunizations provide these children the best available protection against several dangerous childhood diseases.

The State Health Plan Well Child Care Benefit, which has been available since January 1, 1996, provides coverage for routine check-ups and immunizations for covered dependent children from birth until they turn 19 years old. Through the Well Child Care Benefit, regular doctor visits and immunizations are covered at 100 percent without any deductible or coinsurance when provided by State Health Plan network providers. No coverage for well child visits and immunizations is available outside of the network.

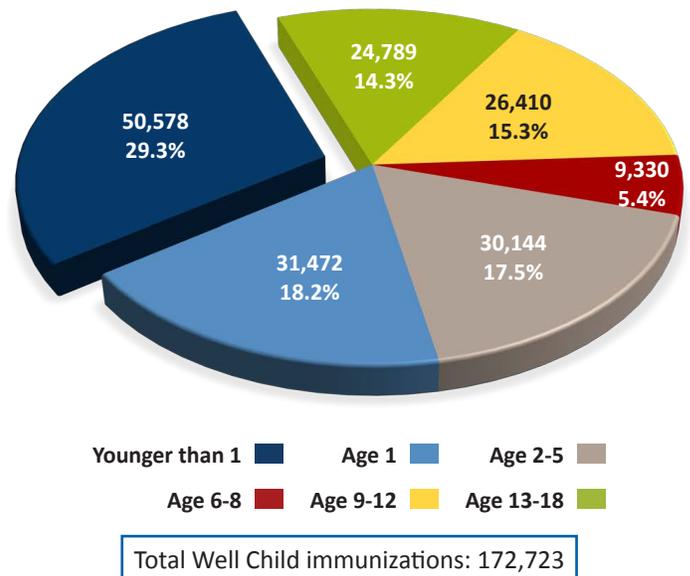
The State Health Plan provided 79,706 Well Child Care office visits and immunizations during 2014, an increase of 9.3 percent from the 72,903 provided in 2013. The plan paid \$13.4 million in 2014, 10.7 percent more than the \$12.1 the plan paid in 2013.

In 2014, 172,723 immunizations were covered through the benefit. Children younger than 1 received 50,578 immunizations, which comprised 29.3 percent of the total immunizations in 2014. Children age 1 received 31,472 immunizations, or 18.2 percent of the 2014 total. Immunizations for children ages 2-5 totaled 30,144, or 17.5 percent. Children ages 6-8 received 9,330 immunizations (5.4 percent) while children ages 9-12 received 26,410 immunizations (15.3 percent). Children ages 13-18 received 24,789 immunizations, or 14.3 percent.

During 2014, the State Health Plan insured an average of 115,296 children. These children made up 26.6 percent



### 2014 SHP Well Child Care immunizations by age



of the total insured lives last year. Claims payments made on behalf of these members totaled \$172.3 million (10.7 percent of total claims payments) at an average of \$1,494.10 per child. Adult claims payments in 2014 totaled \$1.4 billion at an average of \$4,511.42 per adult.

Under the State Health Plan, children are eligible for benefits until age 26. Coverage may extend past age 26 for children who are deemed medically incapacitated before age 26.

